

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

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1-15. (canceled)


16. (new) A common carrier (200) that connects a portable terminal (100) to an information server (300), the portable terminal being connected to the common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol, the information server being connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol, the common carrier comprising:

A  
a protocol converter (110, 170) in communication with the wireless communication network and the further network and that converts between the first and second protocols;

payer information storage (160) that stores first identification information about information providers that operate information servers;

a payer processor (140) connected to the protocol converter and to the payer information storage that compares second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication

between the portable terminal and one of the information servers;  
and




an accounting processor (120) connected to said payer processor that charges a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to a one of the information providers whose first identification information stored in the payer information storage matches the second identification information, and charges the portable terminal the fee when the second identification information does not match any of the first identification information stored in the payer information storage.

17. (new) The common carrier of claim 16, wherein the first identification information stored in the payer information storage includes at least one of a uniform resource locator (URL), internet protocol (IP) address and an e-mail address for the information provider.

18. (new) The common carrier of claim 16, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol, and wherein the protocol converter communicates with the telephone network using the wireless application protocol and with the internet using the internet protocol and converts

between the wireless application protocol and the internet protocol.

19. (new) The common carrier of claim 16, further comprising an account manager for registering the first identification information in the payer information storage.



20. (new) A method of connecting a portable terminal to an information server, where the portable terminal is connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol and the information server is connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol,

the method being carried out in the common carrier and comprising the steps of:


converting between the first and second protocols;

storing first identification information about information providers that operate information servers;

comparing second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers; and

charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to a one of the information providers whose stored first identification

information matches the second identification information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the second identification information does not match any of the stored first identification information.



21. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the stored first identification information includes at least one of a uniform resource locator (URL), internet protocol (IP) address and an e-mail address for the information provider.

22. (new) The method of claim 20, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol.

23. (new) A computer readable medium with a computer readable program embodied therein for carrying out a method of connecting a portable terminal to an information server, where the portable terminal is connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol and the information server is connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol and where the common carrier converts between the first and second protocols,

the computer readable medium being in the common carrier and comprising,

computer readable program code for storing first identification information about information providers that operate information servers,


computer readable program code for comparing second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers; and

computer readable program code for charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to a one of the information providers whose stored first identification information matches the second identification information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the second identification information does not match any of the stored first identification information.

24. (new) A common carrier (200) that connects a portable terminal (100) to an information server (300), the portable terminal being connected to the common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol, the information server being connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol, the common carrier comprising:

a protocol converter (110, 170) in communication with the wireless communication network and the further network and that converts between the first and second protocols;

payer information storage (160) that stores first identification information about information providers that operate information servers;



a payer processor (180) connected to the protocol converter and to the payer information storage that compares second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers, the payer processor inserting accounting information into the communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers when the second identification information matches one of the first identification information stored in the payer information storage, the accounting information indicating a one of the information providers to be charged for the communication; and

an accounting processor (120) connected to said payer processor that charges a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to the one of the information providers indicated by the inserted accounting information, and charges the portable terminal the fee

when the second identification information does not match any of the first identification information stored in the payer information storage.

25. (new) The common carrier of claim 24, wherein the first identification information stored in the payer information storage includes at least one of a uniform resource locator (URL), internet protocol (IP) address and an e-mail address for the information provider.

26. (new) The common carrier of claim 24, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol, and wherein the protocol converter communicates with the telephone network using the wireless application protocol and with the internet using the internet protocol and converts between the wireless application protocol and the internet protocol.

27. (new) The common carrier of claim 24, further comprising an account manager for registering the first identification information in the payer information storage.

28. (new) A method of connecting a portable terminal to an information server, the portable terminal being connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol, the information server being connected to the

common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol,

the method being carried out in the common carrier and comprising the steps of:

converting between the first and second protocols;

storing first identification information about information providers that operate information servers;

comparing second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers;

inserting accounting information into the communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers when the second identification information matches one of the stored first identification information, the accounting information indicating a one of the information providers to be charged for the communication; and

charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to the one of the information providers indicated by the inserted accounting information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the second identification information does not match any of the stored first identification information.



29. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the stored first identification information includes at least one of a uniform resource locator (URL), internet protocol (IP) address and an e-mail address for the information provider.


30. (new) The method of claim 28, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol.

31. (new) A computer readable medium with a computer readable program embodied therein for carrying out a method of connecting a portable terminal to an information server, where the portable terminal is connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol and the information server is connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol and where the common carrier converts between the first and second protocols,

the computer readable medium being in the common carrier and comprising,

computer readable program code for storing first identification information about information providers that operate information servers;

computer readable program code for comparing second identification information to the stored first identification information, the second identification information identifying an entity and being obtained from a communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers;




computer readable program code for inserting accounting information into the communication between the portable terminal and one of the information servers when the second identification information matches one of the stored first identification information, the accounting information indicating a one of the information providers to be charged for the communication; and

computer readable program code for charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the one of the information servers to the one of the information providers indicated by the inserted accounting information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the second identification information does not match any of the stored first identification information.

32. (new) A common carrier (200) that connects a portable terminal (100) to an information server (300), the portable terminal being connected to the common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol, the information server being connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the


first protocol, a communication between the portable terminal and the information server including accounting information indicating who is to be charged for the communication, the common carrier comprising:

a protocol converter (110, 170) in communication with the wireless communication network and the further network and that converts between the first and second protocols;



an accounting processor (120) connected to said protocol converter that charges a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the information server to the information provider indicated by the accounting information, and charges the portable terminal the fee when the accounting information does not indicate the information provider to be charged.

33. (new) The common carrier of claim 32, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol, and wherein the protocol converter communicates with the telephone network using the wireless application protocol and with the internet using the internet protocol and converts between the wireless application protocol and the internet protocol.




34. (new) A method of connecting a portable terminal to an information server, the portable terminal being connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol, the information server being connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol, a communication between the portable terminal and the information server including accounting information indicating who is to be charged for the communication,

the method being carried out in the common carrier and comprising the steps of:

converting between the first and second protocols; and  
charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the information server to the information provider indicated by the accounting information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the accounting information does not indicate the information provider to be charged.

35. (new) The method of claim 34, wherein the wireless communication network is a telephone network and the first protocol is a wireless application protocol and the further network is the internet and the second protocol is an internet protocol.

36. (new) A computer readable medium with a computer readable program embodied therein for carrying out a method of



connecting a portable terminal to an information server, where the portable terminal is connected to a common carrier through a wireless communication network that uses a first protocol and the information server is connected to the common carrier through a further network that uses a second protocol different from the first protocol and where the common carrier converts between the first and second protocols, a communication between the portable terminal and the information server including accounting information indicating who is to be charged for the communication,

the computer readable medium being in the common carrier and comprising,

computer readable program code for charging a fee for the communication between the portable terminal and the information server to the information provider indicated by the accounting information, and charging the portable terminal the fee when the accounting information does not indicate the information provider to be charged.

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